

REMARKS

The application has been amended to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

The specification is amended to include section headings.

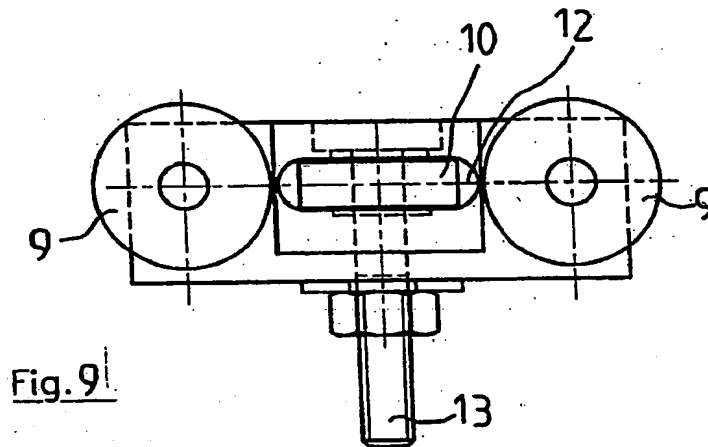
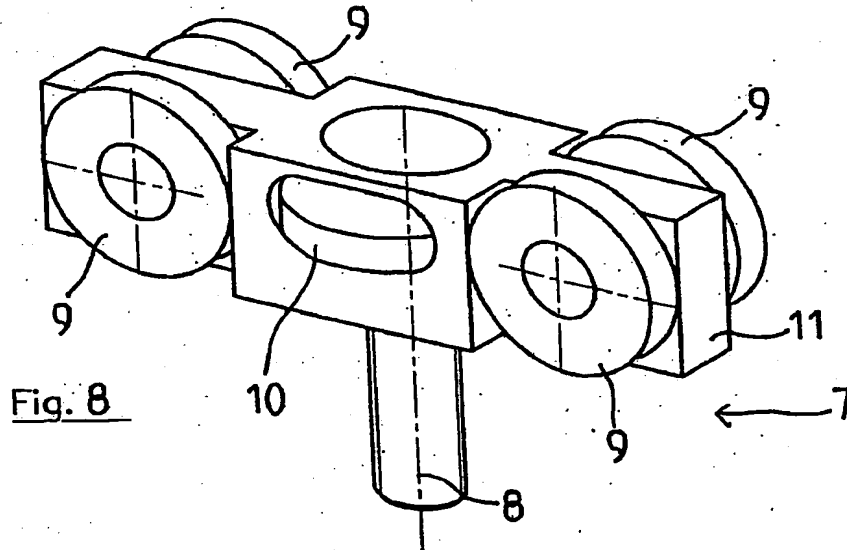
A substitute Abstract of the Disclosure is provided on an accompanying separate sheet.

Claims 7-21 were previously pending in the application. Claims 8, 9, 13-16, 18 and 19 are canceled and new claims 22-24 are added. Therefore, claims 7, 10-12, 17 and 20-24 are presented for consideration.

Claims 7-21 were rejected as unpatentable over CATLETT et al. 3,605,339 in view of VATER 4,457,046. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 7 is amended to include the subject matter of claims 8 and 9 and recites multiple first wheels the axes of rotation of which are oriented in a same horizontal plane. Claim 7 further recites a second wheel that pivots on a same axis of rotation of the carriage in the same horizontal plane.

By way of example, Figures 8 and 9 of the present application, reproduced below, show multiple first wheels 9 the axes of rotation of which are oriented in the same horizontal plane (the dashed horizontal line unnumbered). Wheel 10 pivots on axis 8 in the same plane in which the wheels 9 rotate.



As noted in the Official Action, CATLETT discloses a single roller 90. In an attempt to overcome the shortcomings of CATLETT, the VATER reference is cited.

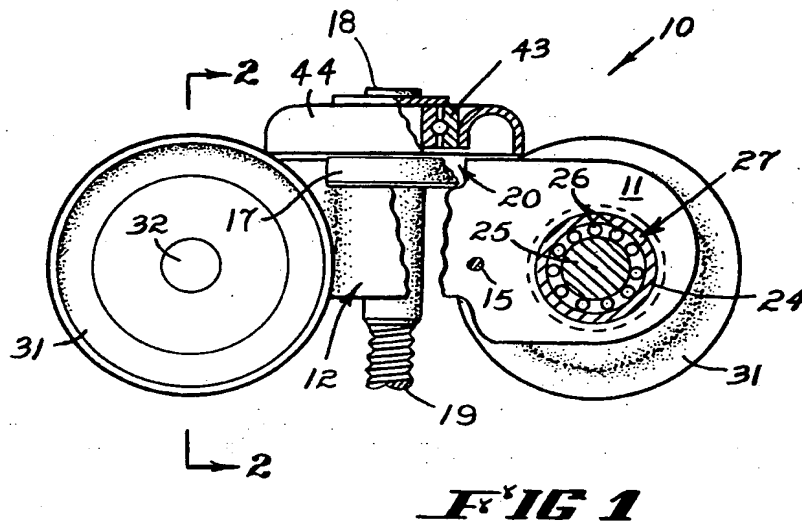
However, VATER neither discloses that for which it is offered nor discloses that which is recited.

The carriage of VATER is for doors having a pure sliding movement. The carriage of VATER is not mounted in

rotation in relation to a leaf. In contrast, the carriage of VATER is mounted via a suspension bolt 19 coacting with joining plate 11 "thereby inhibiting rotation of the suspension bolt 19" (as disclosed in column 3, lines 1-2 of VATER). Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art attempting to improve upon a door that moves in both rotation and sliding movement would not look to the teachings of VATER to provide a solution.

Moreover, even if the references were combined in the manner suggested, they do not teach all that is recited.

As seen in Figure 1 of VATER, reproduced below, the carriage of VATER comprises first wheels 31 and a second wheel 44 that is spaced apart from the rotation axis of wheels 31.



Further, there is no motivation to move the wheel 44 of VATER to the same horizontal axis as vertical wheels 31. Column 3, lines 41-58 of VATER disclose that the function of wheel 44 is

to engage surface 39 when bolt 19 moves in the lateral direction. Wheel 44 prevents carriage assembly from tilting too far. Such advantage would not be gained by moving wheel 44 between and in the plane of the axes of rotation of wheels 31.

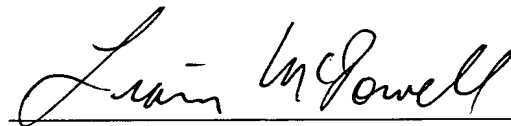
New claim 22 is directed to the embodiment of Figure 9. The disclosed prior art does not disclose or suggest four first wheels positioned symmetrically around a second wheel as recited. Accordingly, new claim 22 is believed to distinguish over the cited prior art.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Liam McDowell, Reg. No. 44,231
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

LM/lrs

APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following item:

- amended Abstract of the Disclosure